

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

INT-08 SCEM-02 RSR-01 /192 W
----- 071469

P R 300030 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1011

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

US MISSION OECD PARIS 0492

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 0127

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STATE PASS OECD CAPS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENRG AS OECD

SUBJ: OECD OIL APPORTIONMENT PROPOSAL

REF: A. STATE 94896

B. CANBERRA 2814

1. IN REPLY TO OUR MAY 21 LETTER (REF B) DFA
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FLOOD INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICER
MAY 29 THAT GOA CANNOT ACCEPT US DRAFT OF FOUR- PARTY
STATEMENT TO EUROPEAN OECD MEMBERS ON VOLUNTARY
AGREEMENT TO SHARE OIL IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY. GOA
STILL WILLING TAKE PART IN DISCUSSIONS WITH US, CANADA
AND JAPAN AND AGREES TO STATEMENT THIS FACT AT JUNE 13
OIL COMMITTEE MEETING. THESE VIEWS RESULT OF MAY 28
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALL GOA AGENCIES
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CONCERNED.

2. SUBSTANTIVE TEXT OF FLOOD' S LETTER FOLLOWS:

QUOTE OUR POSITION ON DRAFT TEXT IS, BRIEFLY, THAT AUSTRALIA IS UNABLE TO AGREE TO SUCH A STATEMENT BEING MADE ON BEHALF OF FOUR NON- EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF THE OECD. AT THIS TAGE OF OUR CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION WE DO NOT FIND OURSELVES IN A POSITION TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE THAT AUSTRALIA' S PARTICIPATION IN AN OECD WIDE APPORTIONMENT SCHEME IS NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE. WE DO, OF COURSE, RAMAIN WILLING TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS ON THIS QUESTION WITH THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND JAPAN, AND WITH OTHER OECD COUNTRIES, AND WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT BEING MADE AT THE 13 JUEE MEETING OF THE OIL COMMITTEE
END QUOTE

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: GOA REACTION TO DRAFT STATEMENT NOT SURPRISING FOR REASONS EXPLAINED REF (B). GOA UN- LIKELY TO ACCEPT NEED FOR APPORTIONMENT SCHEME PARTIAI- PARTION UNTIL IT IS CONVINCED THAT AUSTRALIA, DESPITE ITS ABUNDANCE OF CERTAIN MINERALS AND FUELS, IS IN MUCH SAME POSITION AS OTHER OECD MEMBERS IN ITS NEED FOR OIL IMPORTS.
HARROP

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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